

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method for formulation of queries for use in accessing information from a knowledge base, said method comprising:

- (a) ~~displaying at a first device,~~

~~sending a first menu list of words or phrases associated with a plurality of concepts to a second device;~~
- (b) ~~receiving a first selection of at least one of the words or phrases in the first menu list from a user~~ the second device, the received first selection identifying a concept for a query to be formed;
- (c) ~~receiving~~ accessing user profile information associated with ~~the a~~ a user formulating the queries query;
- (d) ~~obtaining~~ identifying a second menu list of words or phrases based on the received first selection ~~of at least one of the words or phrases in the first menu list~~ and the accessed user profile information;

sending the identified second menu list to the second device;
- (e) ~~receiving a second selection of at least one of the words or phrases in the second menu list from the user~~ the second device, the second selection identifying a first segment of the query; and
- (f) ~~combining~~ forming the query as a natural language query based on the received first selection and the received second selection to construct at least a portion of a query;

sending the formed query to a third device for execution of the query; and

receiving a response to the formed query.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Canceled)

4. (Canceled)

5. (Canceled)

6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently amended) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein identifying the second menu list ~~the obtaining step (d)~~ comprises dynamically generating the second menu list based on the first selection of at least one of the words or phrases in the first menu list.

8. (Currently amended) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein identifying the second menu list ~~the obtaining step (d)~~ comprises selecting the second menu list from a plurality of predetermined menu lists based on the first selection of at least one of the words or phrases in the first menu list.

9. (Canceled).

10. (Currently amended) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein said method further comprises:

~~(g) displaying~~ sending the formed query produced by the combining step (f) to the second device.

11. (Canceled)

12. (Currently amended) ~~In a mobile computing device having a display and at least one user input button, a~~ A method for facilitating user input, said method comprising:

(a) at a mobile computing device, receiving a first menu list of words or phrases from a second device ~~series of user word or phrase menu selections, the series of user word or~~

~~phrase menu selections being associated with a series of menus that are presented on the display, the received first menu list including a plurality of concepts associated with a natural language query to be formed; and~~

(b) ~~selecting receiving a first selection of a first word or phrase by the~~ from a user of the mobile computing device, the received first selection identifying a concept selected for the natural language query to be formed;

sending the received first selection to the second device;

(c) ~~receiving a second menu list of words or phrases from the second device, the second menu list selected based on series of user word or phrase menu selections biased with respect to a user profile associated with the user of the mobile computing device and the identified concept;~~

(d) ~~selecting receiving a second selection of a second word or phrase by~~ from the user of the mobile computing device, the second selection identifying a first segment of the natural language query;

(e) ~~constructing one or more phrases, sentences or questions from the selected first word or phrase and the selected second word or phrase~~ sending the received second selection to the second device;

receiving a result of the natural language query; and

displaying a result of the natural language query to the user.

13. (Canceled)

14. (Canceled)

15. (Currently amended) A method as recited in claim 12, wherein the method further comprises:

a. ~~(f)-displaying the query to the user one or more phrases, sentences or questions from the constructing step (e).~~

16. (Currently amended) A method as recited in claim 15, wherein ~~the displaying step (f) operates to~~ the query comprises ~~incrementally update~~ updating the query ~~one or more phrases, sentences or questions being displayed as each of the series of user word or phrase menu selections are individually made.~~

17. (Canceled)

18. (Original) A method as recited in claim 12, wherein at least adjacent ones of the menus in the series of menus have a grammatical and/or contextual relationship.

19. (Original) A method as recited in claim 12, wherein the mobile computing device is a hand-held or wearable computing device.

20. (Currently amended) A method as recited in claim 12, wherein the ~~constructing step (e) operates to construct the one or more phrases, sentences or questions based on the series of user word or phrase menu selections and based on~~ user profile includes one or more of a user selection history, user preferences, content, or application.

21. (Original) A method as recited in claim 12, wherein the series of menus are predetermined.

22. (Canceled)

23. (Canceled)

24. (Currently amended) A method ~~for retrieving pertinent information from a data source for a user, said method~~ as recited in claim 1, further comprising:

(a) ~~displaying an initial menu of words or phrases;~~

(b) ~~receiving an initial user menu selection of at least one of the words or phrases of the initial menu from the user;~~

~~(e) — obtaining a subsequent menu of words or phrases based on the initial user menu selection and user profile information associated with the user;~~

~~(d) — displaying the subsequent menu of words or phrases that is based upon a profile of the user;~~

~~(e) — receiving a subsequent user menu selection of at least one of the words or phrases of the subsequent menu from the user;~~

~~(f) — displaying an initial query in accordance with at least the subsequent user menu selection;~~

~~(g) — (a) before forming the query, determining whether an additional user menu selection is selections are desired or needed;~~

~~(b) if an additional user menu selection is needed, sending a third menu list of words or phrases to the second device based on the received second selection;~~

~~(c) receiving a third selection of at least one of the words or phrases in the third menu list from the second device, the third selection identifying a second segment of the query; and~~

~~(h) — repeating said obtaining (e) (a) through said displaying (f) (c) until said determining (g) determines that no additional user menu selections are desired or needed, wherein an updated the formed query is displayed by said displaying (f) in accordance with at least the plurality of includes the subsequent user menu received selections[[:]]~~

~~(i) — obtaining a response to the updated query; and~~

~~(j) — presenting the response to the user.~~

25. (Currently amended) A method as recited in claim [[24]] 1, wherein sending the formed query wherein the obtaining step (i) comprises:

(i1) forming a request for the response to the updated formed query; and

~~(i4)~~ transmitting the request to the third device ~~a remote server from which the response is obtained; and~~

~~(i1)~~ ~~receiving the response from the remote server.~~

26. (Canceled)

27. (Canceled)

28. (Canceled)

29. (Canceled)

30. (Canceled)

31. (Canceled)

32. (Canceled)

33. (Canceled)

34. (New) A computer-readable medium including computer-readable instructions that, upon execution by a processor, cause the processor to form a query for use in accessing information from a knowledge base, the instructions configured to cause a computing device to:

send a first menu list of words or phrases associated with a plurality of concepts to a second device;

receive a first selection of at least one of the words or phrases in the first menu list from the second device, the received first selection identifying a concept for a query to be formed;

access user profile information associated with a user formulating the query;

identify a second menu list of words or phrases based on the received first selection and the accessed user profile information;

send the identified second menu list to the second device;

receive a second selection of at least one of the words or phrases in the second menu list from the second device, the second selection identifying a first segment of the query;

form the query as a natural language query based on the received first selection and the received second selection;

send the formed query to a third device for execution of the query; and

receive a response to the formed query from the third device.

35. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 34, wherein identifying the second menu list comprises dynamically generating the second menu list based on the first selection of at least one of the words or phrases in the first menu list.

36. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 34, wherein identifying the second menu list comprises selecting the second menu list from a plurality of predetermined menu lists based on the first selection of at least one of the words or phrases in the first menu list.

37. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 34, wherein the instructions to send the formed query are configured to cause a computing device to:

form a request for the response to the formed query; and

transmit the request to the third device.

38. (New) A computer-readable medium including computer-readable instructions that, upon execution by a processor, cause the processor to form a query for use in accessing information from a knowledge base, the instructions configured to cause a computing device to:

receiving a first menu list of words or phrases from a second device, the received first menu list including a plurality of concepts associated with a natural language query to be

formed;

receiving a first selection of a first word or phrase from a user of the computing device, the received first selection identifying a concept selected for the natural language query to be formed;

sending the received first selection to the second device;

receiving a second menu list of words or phrases from the second device, the second menu list selected based on a user profile associated with the user and the identified concept;

receiving a second selection of a second word or phrase from the user of the computing device, the second selection identifying a first segment of the natural language query;

sending the received second selection to the second device;

receiving a result of the natural language query; and

displaying a result of the natural language query to the user.

39. (New) A method as recited in claim 38, wherein the user profile includes one or more of a user selection history, user preferences, content, or application.

40. (New) A device comprising:

a processor;

a communication interface operably coupled to the processor; and

a computer-readable medium including computer-readable instructions stored therein that, upon execution by the processor, perform operations comprising

sending a first menu list of words or phrases associated with a plurality of concepts to a second device;

receiving a first selection of at least one of the words or phrases in the first menu list from the second device, the received first selection identifying a concept for a query to be formed;

accessing user profile information associated with a user formulating the query;

identifying a second menu list of words or phrases based on the received first selection and the accessed user profile information;

sending the identified second menu list to the second device;

receiving a second selection of at least one of the words or phrases in the second menu list from the second device, the second selection identifying a first segment of the query;

forming the query as a natural language query based on the received first selection and the received second selection;

sending the formed query to a third device for execution of the query; and

receiving a response to the formed query from the third device.

41. (New) The device of claim 40, wherein identifying the second menu list comprises dynamically generating the second menu list based on the first selection of at least one of the words or phrases in the first menu list.

42. (New) The device of claim 40, wherein identifying the second menu list comprises selecting the second menu list from a plurality of predetermined menu lists based on the first selection of at least one of the words or phrases in the first menu list.

43. (New) The device of claim 40, wherein the instructions to send the formed query are configured to cause a computing device to:

form a request for the response to the formed query; and

transmit the request to the third device.